

Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Charles Sebes, upon the occasion of his retirement after twenty years of service as the Parma Democratic City Ward Leader. His unwavering dedication to the Party, to his community, and to the rights of working men and women is framed by honor and integrity.

Chuck has spent hundreds of hours volunteering on numerous political campaigns and causes throughout his life. During the past 30 years, Chuck has taken an active role in organizing the Northern Ohio Labor Day Parade. As Secretary of Parma Southwest Cope, Chuck has chaired the reverse raffle committee for the past twenty-five years. He has also been the Chairman of Parma's Democratic Steak Roast for twenty years. Chuck's devotion and enthusiasm consistently inspire those around him and has made all of these events successful.

During his twenty-two years of employment with the National Tool Company, Chuck served as President of the United Steel Workers of America, Local 4827. Governor Richard Celeste appointed Chuck to the Ohio Regional Board of Review for Worker's Compensation. In 1991, Martin Vittardi, Clerk of Parma Municipal Court, appointed Chuck to be the Chief Deputy Clerk of Court. His friendship is coveted not only by myself and Marty, but by numerous individuals whose lives have been touched by his energetic spirit, kindness and loyalty.

As Chief Deputy and Supervisor, his colleagues and staff know him to be a man who is passionate about all aspects of his life. They respect Chuck for his fairness and for being a man of his word. He believes that patience is a virtue and was reassuring that a task would get done, never hesitating to become part of the solution. They appreciate Chuck for always looking out for their best interest, fighting for what they deserve and for being valued by him. His reputation for being a prankster and for his colorful way of telling a joke is legendary. Chuck is a wise and generous man, and he is a true friend to the people in his life.

Evelyn, his wife of 52 years, and their wonderful family have sustained Chuck with a lifetime of support. Joe, Jim, Janet and Joyce, have blessed them with seven grandchildren. Chuck and Evelyn's children and grandchildren continue to be their pride and joy.

CONGRATULATING DR. LORI ARVISO ALVORD ON HER INDUCTION TO THE AMERICAN INDIAN HALL OF HONOR AT MOUNT KEARSAGE IN WARNER, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

HON. PAUL W. HODES

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. HODES. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Dr. Lori Arviso Alvord, the world's first female Navajo surgeon, on being inducted into the American Indian Hall of Honor at Mount Kearsage in Warner, New Hampshire. Her selection is a testament to her hard work and dedication to the field of medicine.

Dr. Alvord grew up in Crownpoint, New Mexico, a small town where many families had

no water or electricity. Yet her tenacity and hard work allowed her to follow her dream of becoming a surgeon. She is now affiliated with Dartmouth-Hitchcock, one of America's most prestigious hospitals, located in Lebanon, New Hampshire. Congratulations Dr. Alvord on your induction to the American Indian Hall of Honor.

RECOGNIZING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DISASTER RECOVERY AND RELIEF EFFORTS IN DECATUR COUNTY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and recognize the extraordinary contributions of emergency management, disaster response, and recovery personnel as well as elected officials and community leaders in my district which was devastated by the recent severe weather in Indiana.

I wish particularly to honor the Board of Commissioners and County Council, as well as those outstanding individuals in Decatur County:

Pam Blasdel, Director, Emergency Management Agency

Daryl Templeton, Sheriff

Gary Herbert, Mayor, City of Greensburg

Brian Heaton, Chief of Police, City of Greensburg

These areas suffered greatly from severe storms and weather, creating a catastrophe of nature that inflicted injuries, destroyed property, and displaced many of our citizens. In response, these officials went above and beyond the call of duty, showing great poise while saving many lives and serving the people of their communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend these fine men and women for their tremendous dedication to the Hoosier families, businesses, farmers and communities that they serve. As Hoosiers continue to recover from Mother Nature's fury, I feel confident that the people of Decatur County will be well served by these officials.

HONORING ALFREDA PAULINE POSTELL ON HER 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 60th birthday of Alfreda Pauline Postell, a magnificent woman who has made an indelible impact on the health of Americans and whose life is an inspiration to us all.

Born in Miami, Florida, Ms. Postell is the oldest of four children born to Joyce Barry and the late Cleveland Barry, Sr. She is a proud graduate of Miami Northwestern Senior High School. Ms. Postell has two children, Joyce and Lamont Postell, Sr. She is a passionate individual who enjoys dancing and spending time with her family.

During her more than 30-year career, Ms. Postell has worked at the Miami Veterans Af-

fairs Hospital as a nurse aide and now as a medical support assistant. She enjoys volunteering for community projects and gives freely of her time. Ms. Postell has continuously held a reputation as the type of volunteer you want on your team when you want the job done. Through her might, determination and passion, she works hard to bring about positive outcomes in whatever task she endures.

Madam Speaker, in Miami we are fortunate to have Ms. Postell as a pillar of our community, and I am privileged to call her a friend. Not only is she a cherished friend, but she is also an extended member of my family. Ms. Postell's guidance, assurance and acts of kindness over the years have always been appreciated by me and my family. I join countless friends, family members and loved ones in South Florida in wishing Ms. Postell a wonderful birthday, and many more years of good health and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION WINNER: CLEOPATRA GRIFFIN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, today, as co-chair of the 2008 Congressional Art Competition, I would like to proudly recognize Cleopatra Griffin, the Congressional Art Competition winner from the First District of Florida. Cleopatra represents just one of the many talented artists in my district. Ever since she was a kid she enjoyed every art form, although printmaking and drawing are her favorites. She has continually excelled working with pencil, charcoal, and paints.

This Congressional Art Competition is not the first time she has received public recognition for her abilities. Last year, her self-portrait, which now hangs in the Capitol tunnel, won first place at State competition. She has also received first place in printmaking and second place in drawing for a similar portrait piece.

Cleopatra is not only known for her artistic aptitude, but also for her involvement in school and community activities. In high school, while president of the Art Club, she raised money for Relay for Life, stuffed stockings for children around Christmas, and put a huge school-wide art show on at the end of each year.

Madam Speaker, as she moves forward in her education, I wish her continued success as she attends the California College of the Arts in San Francisco this fall and wait eagerly for her future creations.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. RICHARD PARISH IN CHICAGO, IL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th anniversary of St. Richard Parish in Chicago, IL. This upcoming Sunday, the church will hold a celebration to commemorate eight decades of community, faith,

and service, and I am pleased to congratulate the parish on reaching this impressive milestone.

As the Archer Heights community grew in the 1920s, George Cardinal Mundelein of the Archdiocese of Chicago recognized the need for a new Catholic parish in the area, and on June 8, 1928, St. Richard Parish was established.

While services were temporarily held in a storefront, men from the parish built a church on Kostner Avenue. This type of hard work and commitment has been a hallmark of the church's parishioners ever since. In 1947 St. Richard Parish School was opened and to this day provides an outstanding Catholic education for children in Archer Heights. Today, the members of St. Richard Parish continue their dedication to the community, building meeting rooms and a new parish center to provide a safe environment for area children and a focal point for the community.

From their first pastor, Reverend Horace Wellman, to their current pastor, Father Thomas Bernas, St. Richard's diverse group of parishioners continue to enrich the lives of their fellow citizens by providing the community with outreach programs, a strong school, and an unwavering commitment to their faith.

It is with great honor and privilege that I recognize the 80th anniversary of St. Richard Parish, which continues to meet the needs of parishioners and the community through liturgies, programs, and services. The parish offers spiritual direction, hope, and compassion to all of its members. I am proud to have in the Third District of Illinois such a vibrant example of the values and good works that can be provided by a church with outstanding leadership and committed parishioners. May these first 80 years be only the beginning.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, on roll call No. 460, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SERGEANT WALTER J. MORRIS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give homage to one of America's forgotten heroes, Sergeant Walter J. Morris, the first African-American U.S. Army paratrooper and a member of the 555 Parachute Infantry Battalion or "Triple Nickels". The Triple Nickels succeeded in becoming the Nation's first African-American parachute infantry battalion and the first African-American unit to be integrated into the mainstream U.S. Army during World War II.

Sergeant Morris is a pioneer who blazed a trail that many African-American paratroopers proudly follow today. This wasn't an easy ac-

complishment in a totally segregated army. The U.S. Army had a tradition of relegating Blacks to menial jobs with very little chance for advancement. Sergeant Morris routinely required his soldier to exercise and do calisthenics after the White soldiers left the field; this led to increased stamina and confidence in the Black soldiers. These exercises led to the creation of a "test" company of Black soldiers. The Black soldiers under Sergeant Morris' leadership were so successful that the company soon became the now famous "555 Parachute Infantry Battalion". Sergeant Morris was masterful in instilling pride and a sense of accomplishments in the men he led. His efforts led to the diversity we see in the military today.

His efforts are even more impressive when you fully consider the hardships and indignities Black soldiers had to endure. As a proud Black sergeant, Sergeant Morris, with polished boots and paratrooper wings, still had to use the "colored" toilets and drinking fountains, sit in segregated sections of theaters, go out of his way to avoid confrontations with racist police and was denied entry into the post's officers' club.

After his military service, Sergeant Morris continued to live his civilian life with distinction. In keeping with his pioneering spirit, in 1968, he became the first African-American bricklayer foreman in the city of New York with the Planet Construction Company. This accomplishment was another for Sergeant Morris on the path of opening additional doors historically closed to African-Americans. In 1973, he became the first African-American construction supervisor in the city of New York, working for the Bedford-Stuyvesant Corporation in Brooklyn until his retirement in 1983.

Sergeant Morris is truly a pioneer and has led a very distinguished life. His work to help end the color barrier in the U.S. Army and his fight to have the accomplishments of Black soldiers recognized paved the way for future generations to serve in an integrated U.S. Army. His legacy also includes being the proud father of Patricia Worthy of Washington, DC, and Crystal Poole of St. Petersburg, FL.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing the lifelong accomplishments of Sergeant Walter J. Morris and his relentless pursuit to create new opportunities for African-Americans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT MONDAVI

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 365, a resolution celebrating the accomplished life and enduring legacy of Robert Mondavi, whose vision helped propel California winemakers as leaders in the international wine market.

Robert Mondavi was born to a family of Italian immigrants on June 18, 1913. In 1923, his father moved the family to Lodi, California, to pursue an interest in the grape business. Following in his father's footsteps, a young Robert Mondavi began working at Sunny St. Helena Winery in the 1930s, and then later at

Charles Krug Winery after his father had purchased the business.

Less than three decades later, Mr. Mondavi had founded the Robert Mondavi Winery to fulfill his vision of developing world-class Napa Valley wines. He later went on to establish the first French-American wine venture, one of many international collaborations. These efforts helped to drive the Mondavi name to be synonymous with premier California wines.

However, Mr. Mondavi's accomplishments were not limited to the wine industry. His philanthropic and charitable contributions to the community, including founding the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science at the University of California at Davis, the Robert and Magrit Mondavi Center for Performing Arts at UC Davis, the Napa Valley Wine Auction, which has raised millions of dollars for local charities, and his tireless efforts for the conservation of American farmlands all have left an indelible impact on our country.

Mr. Mondavi's bold innovations laid the foundations for many of the wine growers in my Congressional District. His efforts contributed to the success of these wineries now enjoy as one of the world's pre-eminent wine making regions. Mr. Speaker, Robert Mondavi's life and leadership should be applauded, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Robert Mondavi by passing this important resolution.

ADA AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2008

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, as a co-sponsor of H.R. 3195, the ADA Amendments Act, I rise in strong support of the bill.

One of the most fundamental principles of our great nation is that all people, regardless of color, gender, or ability have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The ADA was passed to further this principle, and to ensure equal opportunity and access for individuals with disabilities.

When Congress passed the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990, it was intended to be interpreted broadly in order to protect the rights of all individuals, regardless of ability.

Sadly, the Supreme Court ignored these intentions.

Over the last ten years, the Supreme Court has ruled that those who use mitigating measures such as medication or eyeglasses to manage their disabilities are not "disabled enough" to qualify for relief under the ADA.

Under the Court's ruling, people with conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy, heart disease, cancer, and mental illness are repeatedly denied employment based on their disability, only to be denied relief for not being disabled.

This simply makes no sense.

The ADA Amendments Act will restore the original intent behind the ADA, and clarify the definition of disability to prevent future mistakes by the courts.

Americans with disabilities have been denied their civil rights for too long.

The ADA Amendments Act will restore these rights, and help protect people with disabilities from future discrimination.